

REMARKS

Attached hereto is a copy of all claims, as amended in the applicants most recent reply, including the text of claim 13, which has been withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, applicants consider that the rejections of record have been obviated and respectfully solicit passage of the application to issue.

Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including Extension of Time fees to Deposit Account No. 11-0345. Please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,  
KEIL & WEINKAUF

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David C. Liechty', with a large, stylized flourish extending from the end of the signature.

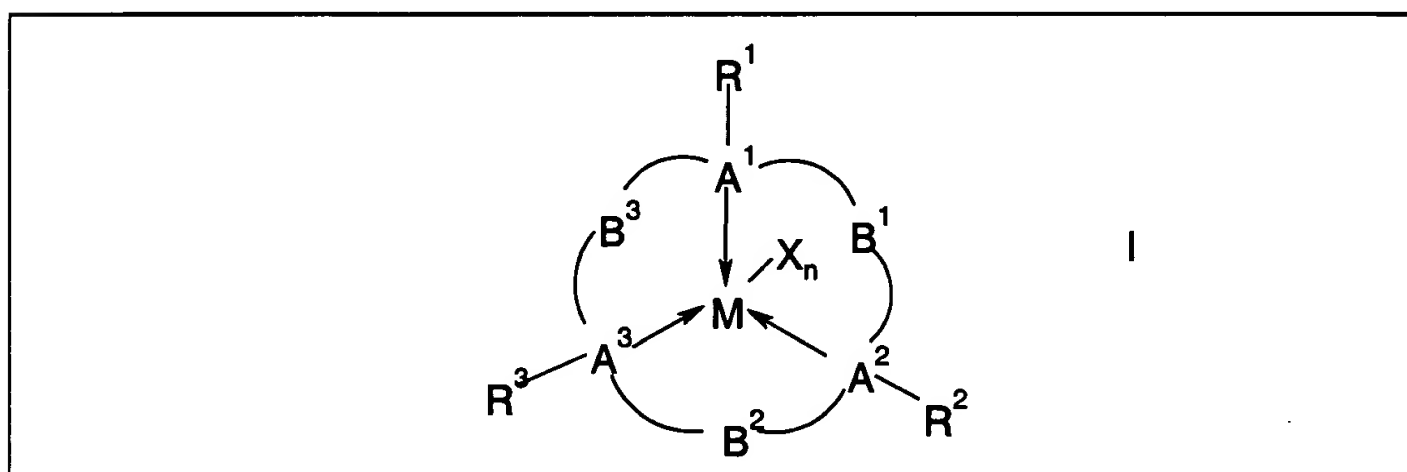
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**COPY OF ALL CLAIMS**

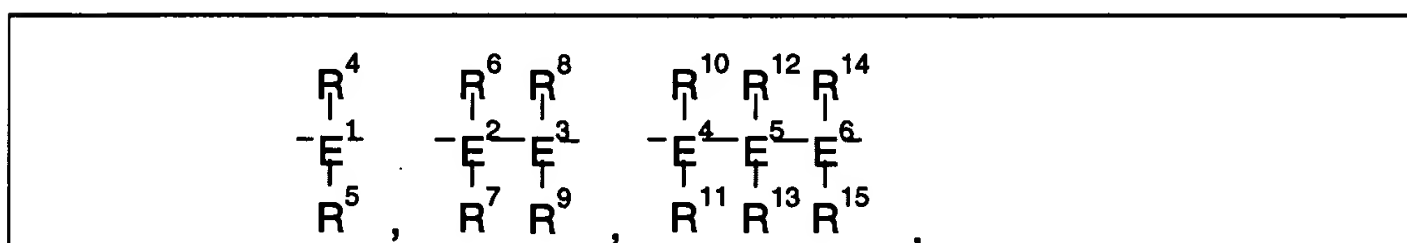
1. (currently amended) A process for the polymerization of olefins, which comprises carrying out the polymerization in the presence of catalysts comprising the following components:
  - (A) at least one complex of a transition metal with a tridentate macrocyclic ligand which bears at least one substituent having a donor function and
  - (B) an aluminoxane ~~optionally, one or more activator compounds.~~
2. (previously presented) A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the component (A) is a compound of the formula I



where the variables have the following meanings:

M is a transition metal of groups 3 to 12 of the Periodic Table,

B<sup>1</sup>-B<sup>3</sup> are each a divalent radical selected from the group consisting of



where

$E^1-E^6$  are silicon or carbon and not more than two of  $E^4-E^6$  are silicon,

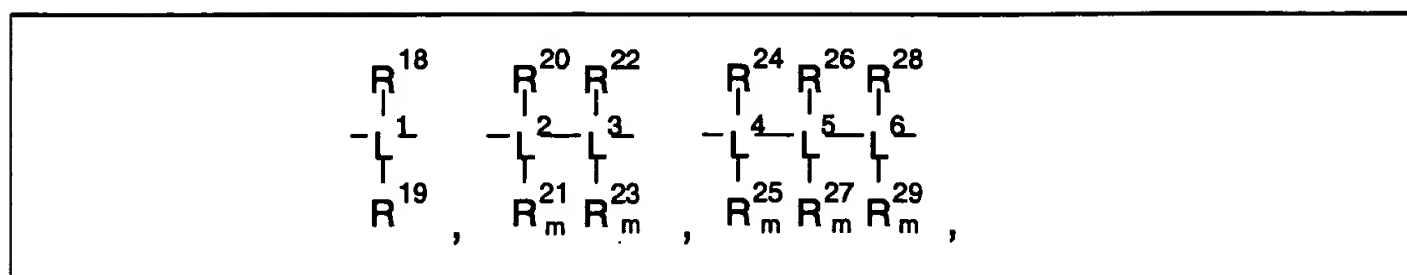
$A^1-A^3$  are nitrogen or phosphorus,

$R^1-R^{15}$  are hydrogen,  $C_1-C_{20}$ -alkyl, 5- to 7-membered cycloalkyl which may in turn bear a  $C_6-C_{10}$ -aryl group as substituent,  $C_2-C_{20}$ -alkenyl,  $C_6-C_{20}$ -aryl, alkylaryl having from 1 to 10 carbon atoms in the alkyl part and 6-20 carbon atoms in the aryl part,  $SiR^{32}_3$  or a radical of the formula  $-Z-D$ , where the organic radicals  $R^1-R^{15}$  may be substituted by halogen(s) and any two geminal or vicinal radicals  $R^1-R^{15}$  may also be joined to form a five- or six-membered ring, and at least one of the radicals  $R^1-R^{15}$  is a radical  $-Z-D$ ,

where

D is  $NR^{16}R^{17}$ ,  $NR^{16}$ ,  $OR^{16}$ , O,  $SR^{16}$ , S,  $PR^{16}R^{17}$ ,  $SO_3R^{16}$ ,  $OC(O)R^{16}$ ,  $CO_2$ ,  $C(O)R^{16}$ ,  $C(NR^{16})R^{17}$ , CN or a five- or six-membered heterocyclic ring system, where the radicals  $R^{16}-R^{17}$  may also be joined to Z to form a five- or six-membered ring;

Z is a divalent radical selected from the group consisting of:



where

$L^1-L^6$  are silicon or carbon, not more than two of  $L^4-L^6$  are silicon and  $m=0$  if any two of the vicinal radicals  $R^{20}$ ,  $R^{22}$ ,  $R^{24}$ ,  $R^{26}$  and  $R^{28}$  form an aromatic ring or a double bond is formed between two adjacent  $L^2-L^6$ , and otherwise  $m=1$ ,

X are, independently of one another, fluorine, chlorine, bromine, iodine, hydrogen,  $C_1-C_{10}$ -alkyl,  $C_2-C_{10}$ -alkenyl,  $C_6-C_{20}$ -aryl, alkylaryl having 1-10 carbon atoms in the alkyl part and 6-20 carbon atoms in the aryl part,  $NR^{30}R^{31}$ ,  $OR^{30}$ ,  $SR^{30}$ ,  $SO_3R^{30}$ ,  $OC(O)R^{30}$ , CN, SCN, =O, b-diketonate,  $BF_4^-$ ,  $PF_6^-$  or bulky noncoordinating anions,

$R^{16}-R^{31}$  are hydrogen,  $C_1-C_{20}$ -alkyl, 5- to 7-membered cycloalkyl which may in turn bear a  $C_6-C_{10}$ -aryl group as substituent,  $C_2-C_{20}$ -alkenyl,  $C_6-C_{20}$ -aryl, alkylaryl having from 1 to 10 carbon atoms in the alkyl part and 6-20 carbon atoms in the aryl part,  $SiR^{32}_3$ , where the organic radicals  $R^{16}-R^{31}$  may be substituted by halogen(s) and any two geminal or vicinal radicals  $R^{16}-R^{31}$  may also be joined to form a five- or six-membered ring,

$R^{32}$  are, independently of one another, hydrogen,  $C_1-C_{20}$ -alkyl, 5- to 7-membered cycloalkyl which may in turn bear a  $C_6-C_{10}$ -aryl group as

substituent, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>20</sub>-alkenyl, C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>20</sub>-aryl, alkylaryl having from 1 to 10 carbon atoms in the alkyl part and 6-20 carbon atoms in the aryl part and any two geminal radicals R<sup>32</sup> may also be joined to form a five- or six-membered ring,

n is a number from 1 to 4 which corresponds to the oxidation state of M or, if D is covalently bound to the metal center M, the oxidation state of M minus the number of groups D covalently bound to M, and, furthermore, the value of n is reduced by 1 for each X=oxygen.

3. (original) A process as claimed in claim 2, wherein only R<sup>1</sup> is a radical -Z-D.
4. (previously presented) A process as claimed in claim 2, wherein B<sup>1</sup>, B<sup>2</sup> and B<sup>3</sup> are identical.
5. (previously presented) A process as claimed in claim 2, wherein D is oxygen, NR<sup>16</sup>, NR<sup>16</sup>R<sup>17</sup> or CN.
6. (previously presented) A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the transition metal M comes from groups 3 to 8 of the Periodic Table.
7. (previously presented) A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the transition metal M comes from group 6 of the Periodic Table.
8. (canceled)
9. (previously presented) A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein at least one olefin selected from the group consisting of ethene, propene, 1-butene, 1-pentene, 1-hexene, 1-heptene or 1-octene is polymerized.

10. (previously presented) A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the polymerization is carried out in suspension or in the gas phase.
11. (previously presented) A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein at least one metal complex (A) in the presence of at least one catalyst (C) customary for the polymerization of olefins and an aluminoxane ~~, optionally, one or more activator compounds~~ (B) is used.
12. (previously presented) A catalyst system comprising the following components:
  - a) at least one transition metal complex (A) as defined in claim 1 and
  - b) at least one aluminoxane ~~activator compound~~ (B).
13. (withdrawn) An olefin polymer obtainable by a process as claimed in claim 1.